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STANDARD BREEDS & VARIETIES OF  
CHICKENS  
I. AMERICAN, ASIATIC, ENGLISH,  
AND MEDITERRANEAN CLASSES



**T**HE BREEDS AND VARIETIES of chickens discussed in this bulletin are of particular value for the production of eggs or poultry meat, or both. The operator of the commercial poultry plant should realize that consumers frequently show a preference for eggs and poultry of a certain color. For instance, New York City, which is the largest egg-consuming center on the American Continent, usually shows a preference for white-shelled eggs; Boston, on the other hand, shows a preference for brown-shelled eggs. All American markets show a preference for poultry with yellow skin. In birds with white plumage or those in which the undercolor is light, the pinfeathers do not show when the birds are prepared for market, and birds without feathers on their shanks are always preferred by poultry dealers and consumers.

There are many recognized breeds and varieties of chickens. Those discussed in this publication belong to the American, Asiatic, English, and Mediterranean classes. The breeds and varieties belonging to the continental European, Oriental, Game, Ornamental, and Miscellaneous classes are discussed in another bulletin of the Department.

This bulletin discusses the qualities of the various breeds and varieties listed; but, because of the large numbers involved, only brief descriptions are possible. Persons desiring more detailed information are referred to the American Standard of Perfection, a book published by the American Poultry Association.

This bulletin supersedes Farmers' Bulletins 898, 1052, and 1347.

Washington, D. C.

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Revised June 1940

# STANDARD BREEDS AND VARIETIES OF CHICKENS

## I. AMERICAN, ASIATIC, ENGLISH, AND MEDITERRANEAN CLASSES

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### INTRODUCTION

THE POULTRY INDUSTRY of the United States is mainly concerned with keeping chickens for the production of food. This may take the form of producing either eggs or meat or both. The breeds and varieties of chickens described in this bulletin constitute the great majority of chickens used for that purpose.

Each breed may comprise one or more varieties, but one character in common is the shape or type of all birds belonging to that breed. All birds belonging to any one variety have a similar color pattern.

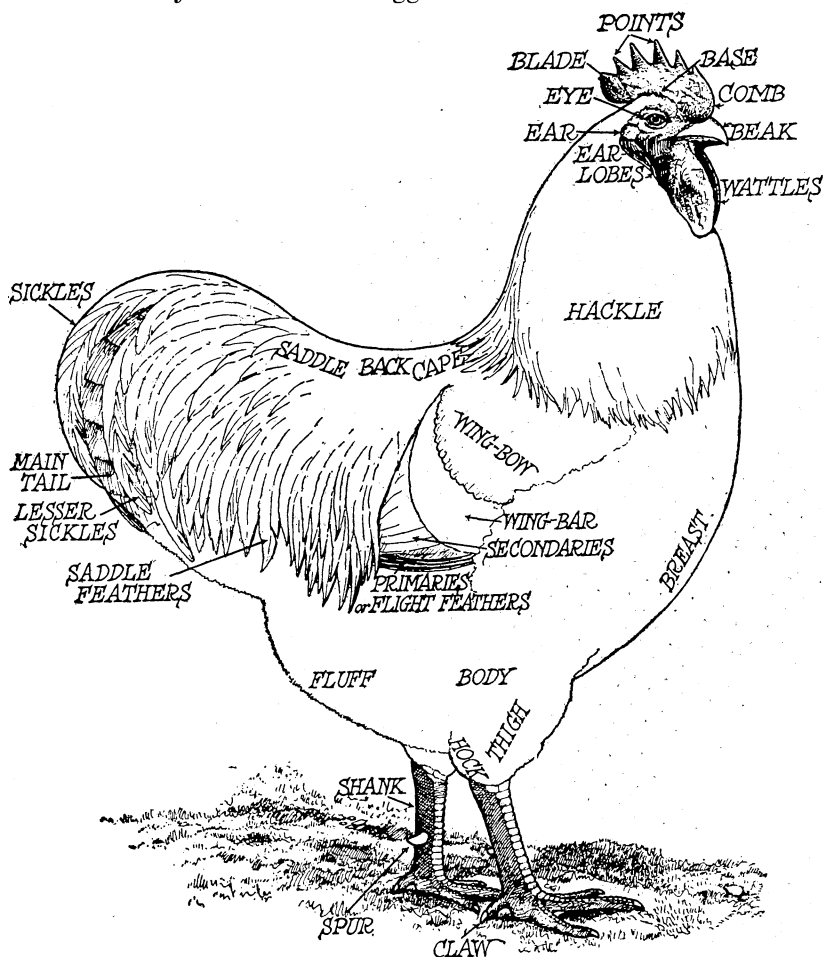
### AMERICAN CLASS

The American class includes the following breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETY
Plymouth Rock.....	Barred, White, Buff, Silver-Penciled, Partridge, Columbian, Blue.
Wyandotte.....	White, Buff, Silver-Laced, Golden-Laced, Partridge, Silver-Penciled, Columbian, Black.
Wyandotte Bantam.....	White, Black, Buff, Partridge, Silver-Penciled, Columbian.
Rhode Island Red.....	Single Comb, Rose Comb.
Rhode Island White.	
New Hampshire.	
Jersey Black Giant.	
Java.....	Black, Mottled.
Dominique.	
Chantecler.....	White, Partridge.
Lamona.	

<sup>1</sup> Resigned August 1936. This revision of the bulletin is by Alfred R. Lee, associate poultry husbandman, Animal Husbandry Division, Bureau of Animal Industry.

All birds belonging to the American class are clean legged; that is, they have shanks free from feathers. They also have yellow shanks and skin and yellow or yellow and horn-colored beaks, except the Java and Jersey Black Giant. All have red ear lobes, and all except the Lamona lay brown-shelled eggs.



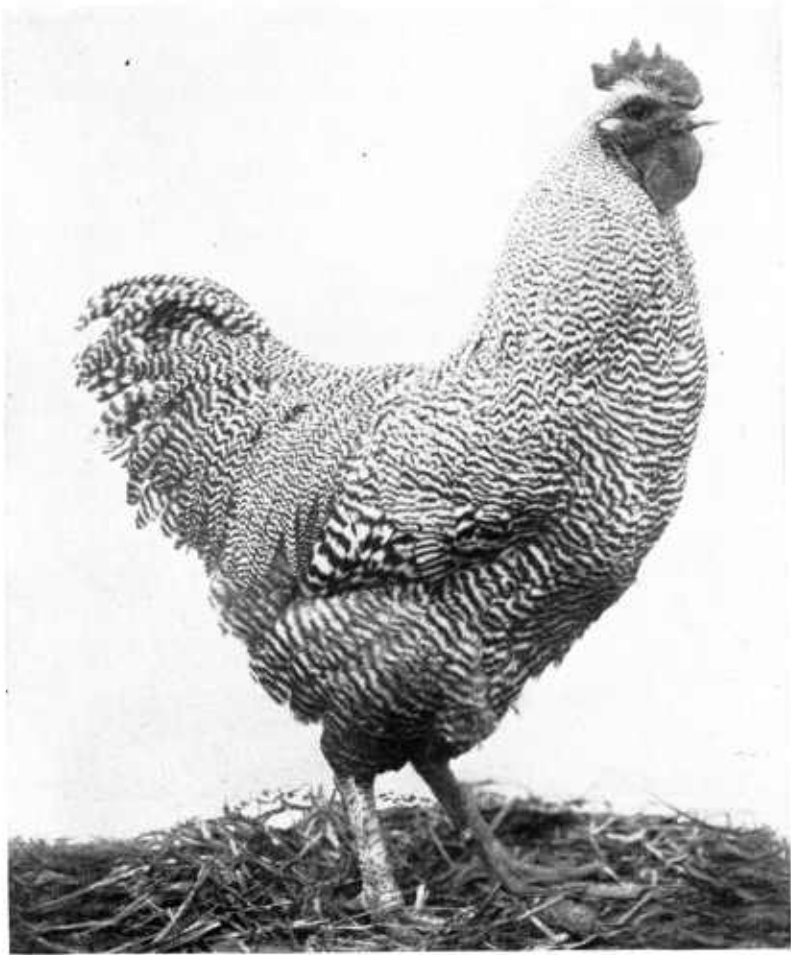
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FIGURE 1.—Glossary chart giving the names of the various sections of a male fowl.

### PLYMOUTH ROCK

The Plymouth Rock is one of the most popular breeds in the United States, largely because it is a bird of good size, with excellent fleshing properties, and when properly bred is also a good layer. The birds belonging to this breed are rather long bodied, fairly broad, with fairly prominent breast and good depth of body. This breed has a single comb. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

The Barred Plymouth Rock in plumage color is grayish white, each feather crossed by sharply defined dark bars which should be even in width, and straight and should extend down to the skin. The light and dark bars of the males are of approximately equal width; in the females the light bars are approximately one-half the width of the dark

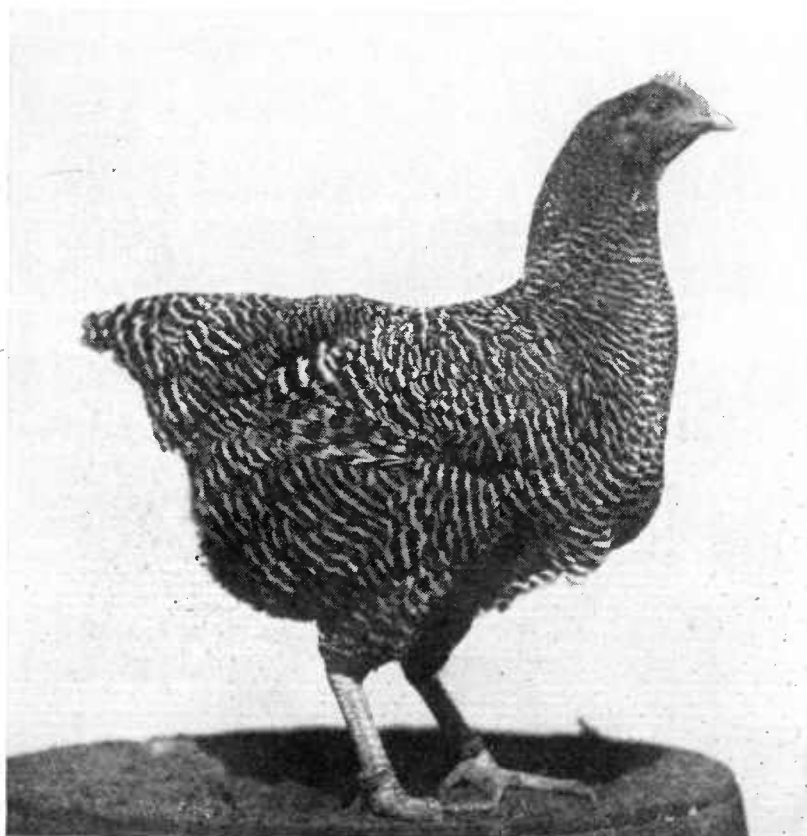


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FIGURE 2.—Barred Plymouth Rock, male.

bars. Each feather should end with a narrow, dark tip, which with the alternate dark and light bars gives a bluish cast or shade to the surface color. The barring in the hackle and saddle of the male is narrower than in other sections. Solid black or partly black feathers may occur in practically all strains in this variety, but their appearance does not necessarily indicate impurity of breeding. Two or more solid-black primaries, secondaries, or main tail feathers are standard disqualifications. Black spots on the shanks are also common, particularly in females, but they do not indicate impurity of breeding.

In the breeding of Barred Plymouth Rocks there is a decided tendency for the males to come lighter in color than the females. Therefore, in order to produce standard-color males and females from the same mating, the female must have wider black bars than the male.<sup>2</sup>



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FIGURE 3.—Barred Plymouth Rock, female. Note that the black bars on the feathers are about twice as wide as the light bars.

The White Plymouth Rock is pure white throughout and should be free from black ticking, brassiness, and creaminess. This breed was developed from a white sport of the Barred Variety. See title page for illustration of a White Plymouth Rock, male.

The Buff Plymouth Rock has a rich golden buff surface color and all sections should be of the same shade. The presence of feathers with shafts of a different color from the rest of the feather and the presence of feathers sprinkled with lighter color are of common occurrence but are undesirable. The undercolor should be as similar to the surface color as possible.

<sup>2</sup>The Barred Plymouth Rock was divided into two varieties, the light and dark, in 1934. These two varieties will be recognized until 1942, when the color pattern for a single standard described in the preceding paragraph, goes into effect.

The Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock has a distinctive color pattern which in the male differs considerably from that of the female. The plumage of the male consists of a silvery-white surface color extending over the wing bows and back; the saddle is silvery white striped with black; and the hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of white. The rest of the plumage, including the main tail feathers and sickles, is black or greenish black. The primaries are black, except for a

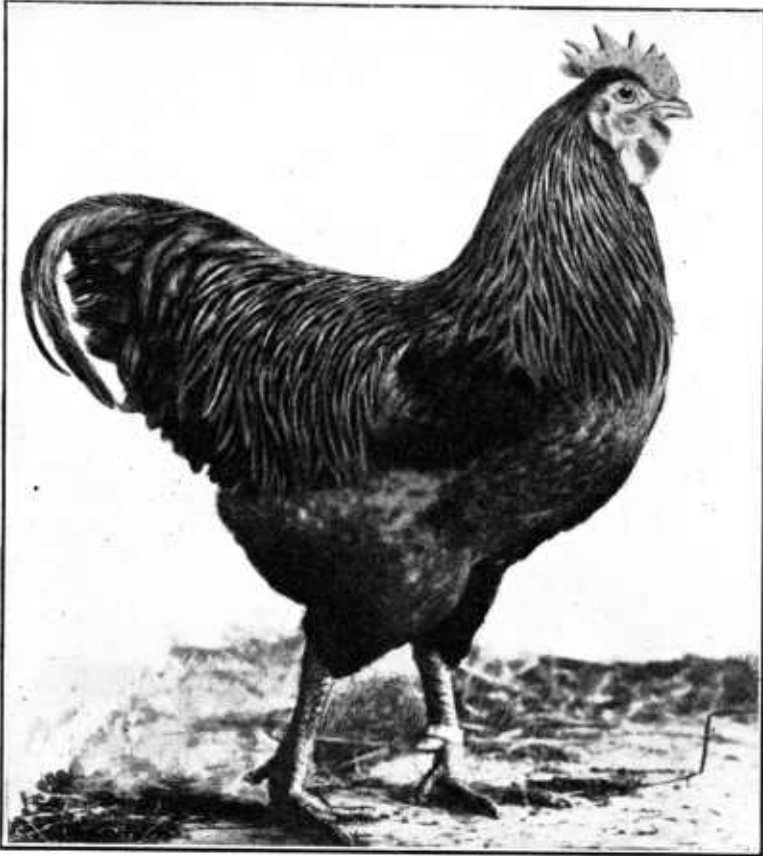


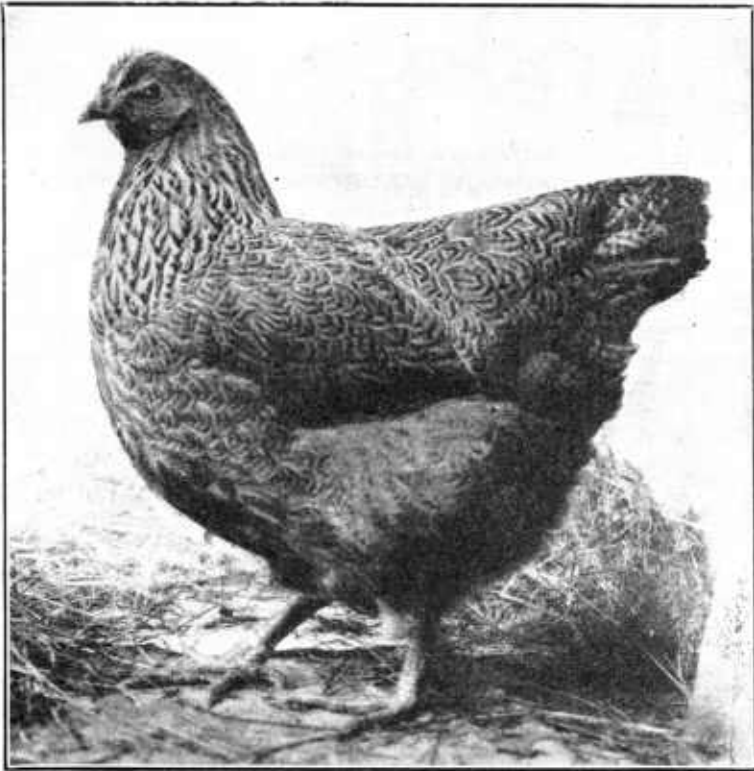
FIGURE 4.—Partridge Plymouth Rock, male.

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narrow edging of white on the lower edges of the lower webs, and the secondaries are also black, with some white. In the female the general surface color is gray, with a distinct, concentric penciling of dark gray on each feather. The neck feathers are silvery white, with a black center showing a slight gray penciling, and the main tail feathers are black, with the two top feathers showing some penciling. The feathers on the back, breast, body, wing bows and thigh should have at least three pencilings. In both sexes the undercolor is slate, shading to a lighter color toward the base in the male. The color markings of this variety are shown in the Silver-Penciled Wyandotte and in the Dark Brahma.



The Partridge Plymouth Rock is practically the same as the Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock in color pattern, except that the white of the Silver-Penciled is replaced by red or reddish bay. The hackle of the male is greenish black with a narrow edging of brilliant red; the plumage in front of the neck is black. The wing bow is brilliant red. The primaries are black, with the lower edges reddish bay, and the secondaries are also black, the outside web being reddish bay,



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FIGURE 5.—Partridge Plymouth Rock, female.

with greenish black at the end of each feather. The main tail feathers are black; the coverts greenish black edged with red. The back has brilliant red feathers, each with a greenish-black stripe down the middle. In the female the neck is reddish bay, and the front of the neck and breast are both deep reddish bay distinctly penciled with black. The wing bows are also deep reddish bay penciled with black. The primaries are black with an edging of deep reddish bay on the outer webs, the inner webs of the secondaries are black, and the outer webs are reddish bay penciled with black. The back is also deep reddish bay penciled with black. The undercolor of all sections of both sexes should be slate.

The Columbian Plymouth Rock has mostly white plumage, although the hackle feathers of the male and the neck feathers of the female, and the tail coverts of both sexes, are black with a distinct white lacing. The main tail feathers are black. The primary feathers

of the wing are black with white edging on the lower edge of the lower web; the lower edge of the lower web of the secondaries is white; the white extends around the end of each feather and laces the upper portion of the web. The black in the wings is almost hidden when the wings are folded. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes should be light bluish slate. The Columbian color is illustrated and some descriptions given under Light Brahma.

The Blue Plymouth Rock male has plumage of a medium shade of slaty blue, over practically all sections, each feather laced with darker blue; in the wing bows, hackle, back, saddle, sickle feathers, and tail coverts the lacing is very dark. This gives the surface color of the upper sections of the male a very dark appearance. In the female the general plumage color is a slaty blue of even shade, each feather except the primaries having a well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue. Blue color is illustrated in the Blue Andalusian male. Both sexes have a slaty blue undercolor.

#### WYANDOTTE

The body of the Wyandotte is comparatively round, and the general shape and character of feathering give it an appearance of having

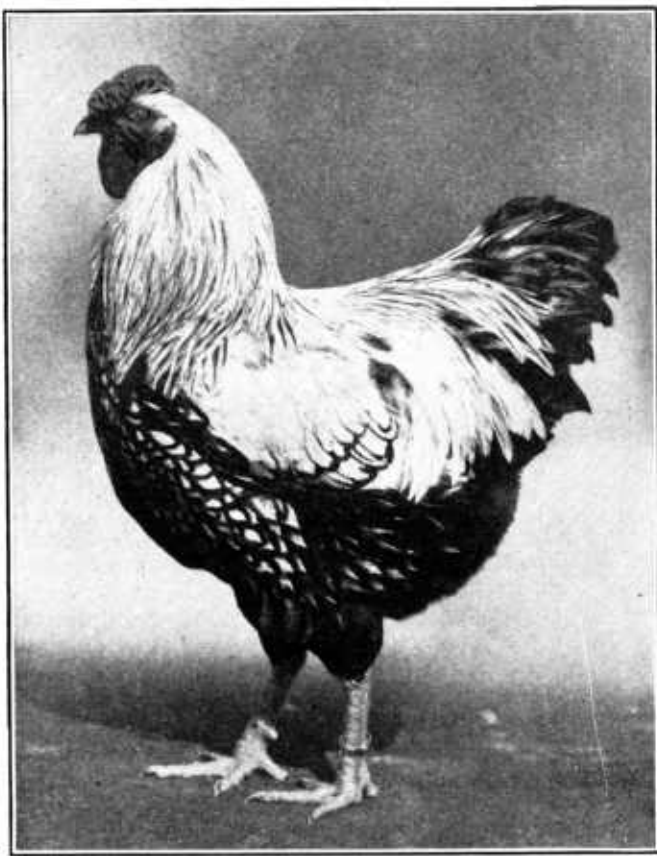


FIGURE 6.—Silver-Laced Wyandotte, male.

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a rather short back and being low-set. Like the Plymouth Rock, it is a good general-purpose breed, well adapted for flesh production, and a good layer when bred for egg production. All Wyandottes have rose combs. Many flocks of White Wyandottes produce some single-comb birds. These come from combinations in which both sexes are impure for rose comb. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

The White Wyandotte is white throughout and, like the White Plymouth Rock, should be free from any brassiness or creaminess or



FIGURE 7.—Silver-Laced Wyandotte, female.

black ticking. This variety is a sport of the Silver-Laced variety.

The Buff Wyandotte is an even shade of buff throughout, identical with the Buff Plymouth Rock in color.

The Silver-Laced Wyandotte has a striking color combination which makes this variety very attractive. The male has a silvery white hackle, back, and saddle, the hackle and saddle feathers being striped with black. The feathers of the body and breast are white-laced with a black edge. The primaries are black with the lower edges white; the secondaries are also black with the lower half of the outer webs white and the upper webs edged with white. The main tail feathers are black. The female has white feathers laced with black over the entire body, except the neck feathers, which are black laced with white; there is also some black in the wings. The primaries and secondaries

are practically the same as in the male. In both sexes the undercolor is slate, in the male shading to lighter slate at the base. The Silver-Laced Wyandotte is the parent variety of the Wyandotte family.

The Golden-Laced Wyandotte has the same general color scheme as the Silver-Laced variety, except that the white is replaced with

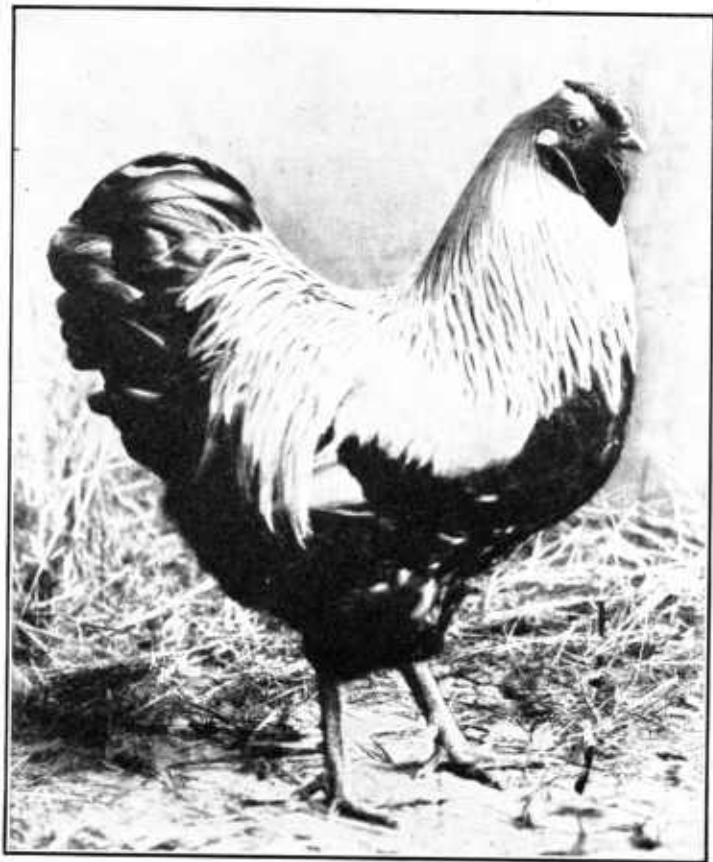


FIGURE 8.—Silver-Penciled Wyandotte, male.

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rich golden bay. The undercolor is slate, in the male shading to red at the base.

The Partridge Wyandotte has the same color pattern as the Partridge Plymouth Rock.

The Silver-Penciled Wyandotte has the same color pattern as the Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock.

The Columbian Wyandotte has the same color pattern as the Columbian Plymouth Rock.

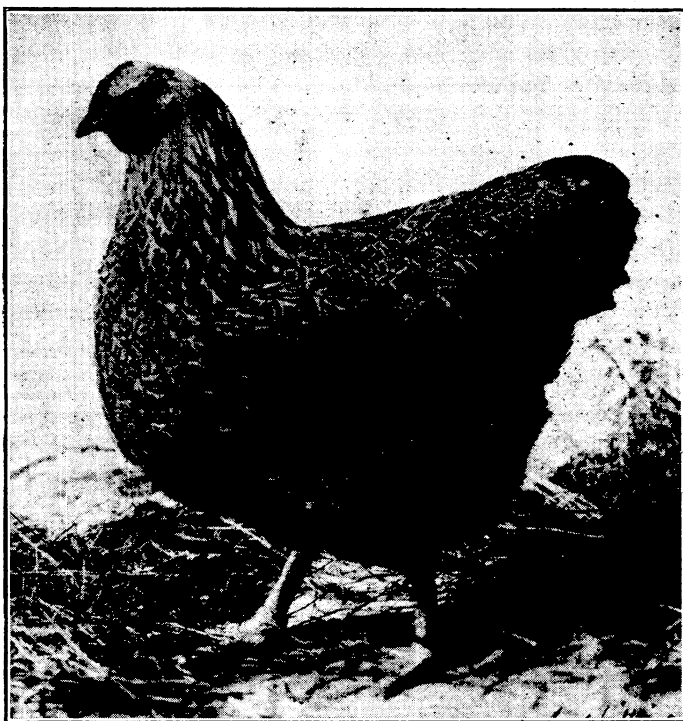
The Black Wyandotte is black in all sections, showing a greenish sheen free from purple barring. The undercolor is dull black.

**WYANDOTTE BANTAM**

White, Black, Buff, Partridge, Silver-Penciled, and Columbian Wyandotte Bantams are recognized as standard varieties of Wyandottes. They have the same shape and color as the larger varieties. The standard weights, in ounces, are: Cock, 30; hen and cockerel, 26; pullet, 24.

**RHODE ISLAND RED**

The Rhode Island Red has a rather long, rectangular body and appears somewhat more upstanding than the Plymouth Rock or the Wyandotte. At the same time, the body has good depth, is wide, and



35696-B

FIGURE 9.—Silver-Penciled Wyandotte, female.

of good length, making a good meat-producing bird. This is one of the most popular of the general-purpose breeds and has made good records in the egg-laying contests. It is slightly smaller than the Plymouth Rock. There are two varieties, single-comb and rose-comb, which are otherwise identical. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

The plumage color of the Rhode Island Red is a rich brilliant red. This color should be as even as possible over the entire surface and throughout all sections, except that the lower webs of the primaries are mostly black, the upper webs of the secondaries are partly black, and the main tail feathers are black; the black in the wings is covered

up when they are folded in natural position. In the ends of the lower feathers on the back of the neck of the female there is also a slight ticking of black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes should be red and free from a dark or slaty appearance, which is known as smut. The beak is reddish horn, and the shanks and toes are rich yellow tinged with reddish horn.

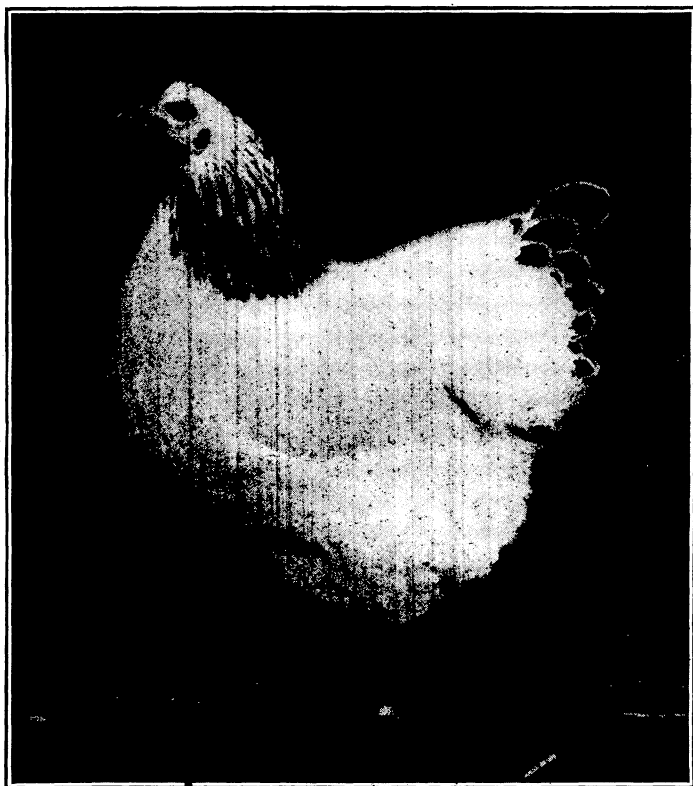


FIGURE 10.—Columbian Wyandotte, female.

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#### RHODE ISLAND WHITE

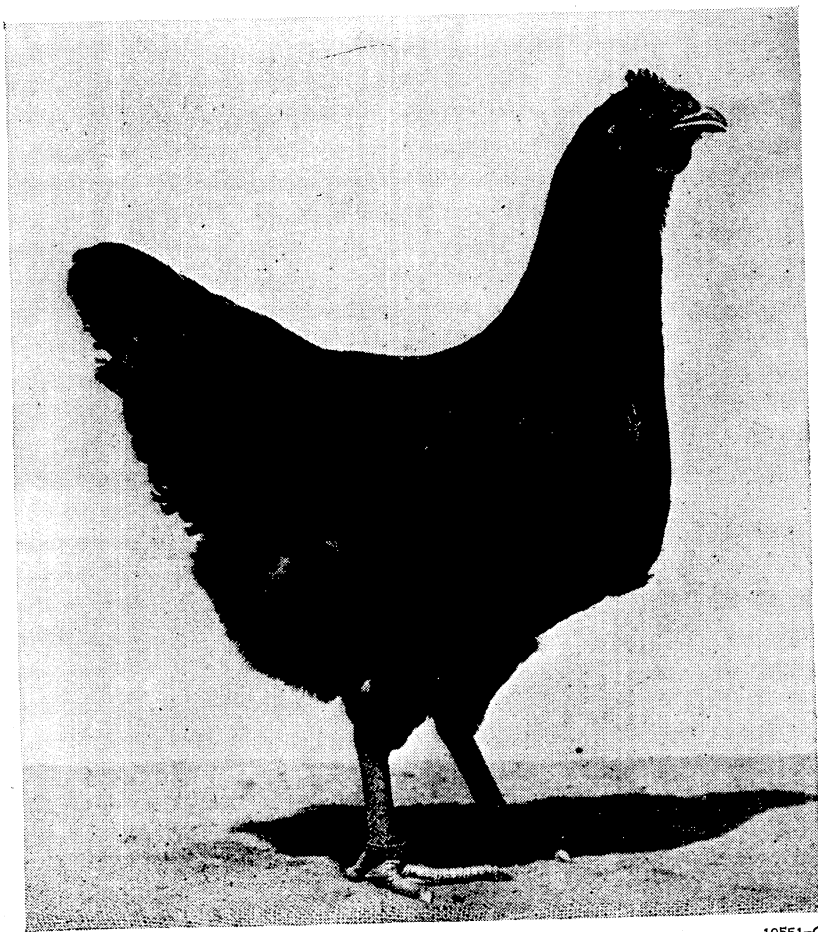
The Rhode Island White, of which the rose-comb is the only standard variety, is identical with the Rose-Comb Rhode Island Red, except that the plumage should be pure white, free from any tint of brassiness. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE

The New Hampshire was admitted to the Standard in 1935. It was developed in New Hampshire from Rhode Island Red stock, and is the same size as that breed and has a single comb. The body type is blocky, medium in length, deep and relatively broad, with the keel extending well to the front of the breast. This breed is being developed as an egg producer and is well adapted for meat production,

comparing favorably with such breeds as the Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, and Wyandottes. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

The general plumage color of the New Hampshire is a chestnut red, with the head, neck, and saddle feathers of the male a reddish bay. The upper webs of the primaries are red and the lower webs black edged with red. The main tail feathers are black and the tail



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FIGURE 11.—Single-Comb Rhode Island Red, female.

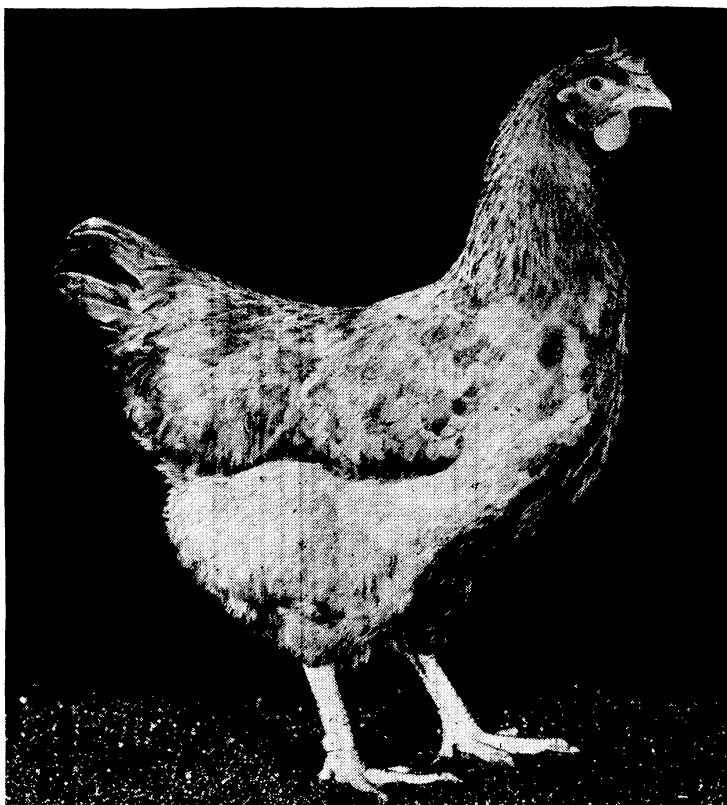
coverts black edged with red. In the female the neck is a chestnut red with the lower neck feathers tipped with black; the tail is black edged with chestnut red. The beak is reddish horn, and the shanks and toes are rich yellow tinged with reddish brown.

#### JERSEY BLACK GIANT

The Jersey Black Giant is the largest of the American breeds. It resembles the other general-purpose fowls in most of their characteristics although it has not been bred so extensively for egg produc-

tion as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, and New Hampshires. The Jersey Black Giant resembles the Plymouth Rock in type but is broader, deeper, and longer. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 13; hen, 10; cockerel, 11; pullet, 8.

The plumage in all sections is black with a greenish sheen. The undercolor is slate, approaching white at the skin. The beak is black, shading to yellow toward the tip. The shanks are black with yellow on the under surface of the feet and toes.



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FIGURE 12.—New Hampshire, female.

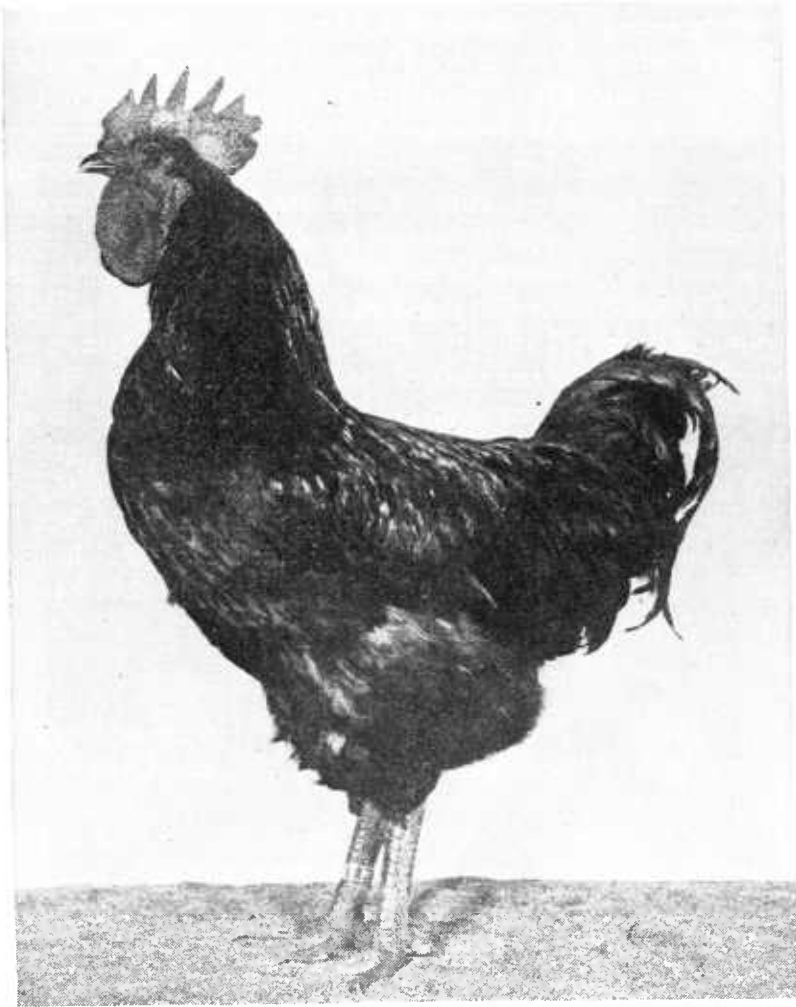
### JAVA

The Java is a bird of good size having a long and deep body with good width of back and a full, well-rounded breast. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 8; pullet,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Black Java is black throughout, with a greenish sheen on the surface plumage. Any tendency toward purple barring is undesirable. The undercolor is dull black. The beak is black and the shanks and toes are black or nearly black, shading to willow, and the bottom of the feet and toes should be yellow.



The Mottled Java has black plumage mottled with white throughout, the black more plentiful than the white. The undercolor is slate. The color of the beak is horn, shading to yellow at tip, and the shanks and toes are leaden blue and yellow.



68076-B

FIGURE 13.—Jersey Black Giant, male.

#### DOMINIQUE

The Dominique is somewhat smaller and lighter in body, with a tail somewhat longer and sickles more prominent than those of the other American breeds. The comb is rose. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 7; hen, 5; cockerel, 6; pullet, 4.

In plumage color the Dominique has a generally bluish or slaty cast; the feathers in all sections are barred with alternate, rather irregular light and dark bars. The markings lack the clean-cut

barring effect of the Barred Plymouth Rock barring, but, like the Barred Plymouth Rock, each feather should end with a dark tip. The male is usually one or two shades lighter than the female. The undercolor is slate. This breed and the Java were two of the earliest standard breeds in the United States, but the number of flocks has decreased to very few during recent years.

### CHANTECLER

The Chantecler is a general-purpose breed which originated in Canada and is not kept extensively in the United States.

The White Chantecler is pure white in all sections and has a small cushion-shaped comb and very small wattles. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

The Partridge Chantecler has comb and wattle characters like the White but is larger in body. It has the same color pattern as the Partridge Plymouth Rock. Standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 10; hen, 7½; cockerel, 8½; pullet, 6½.

### LAMONA

The Lamona has shorter legs than the other American breeds and four toes; in body shape it resembles the Dorking. It was admitted to the Standard in 1933. The breed produces white-shelled eggs. The breast is broad and deep, carried well forward, and the back is long and broad. The plumage is white throughout. The comb is single; the ear lobes are red; the beak and shanks are yellow. Standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7; pullet, 5½.

## ASIATIC CLASS

The Asiatic class includes the following breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETY
Brahma	Light, Dark, Buff.
Brahma Bantam	Dark, Light.
Cochin	Buff, Partridge, White, Black.
Cochin Bantam	Buff, Partridge, White, Black.
Langshan	Black, White.

The breeds belonging to the Asiatic class are of a distinctive type, and have large bodies, feathered shanks, and are usually heavy in bone. They all have yellow skin, except the Black Langshan, whose skin is white. They all have red ear lobes and lay brown-shelled eggs.

### BRAHMA

Birds of the Brahma breed are massive in appearance, well feathered and well proportioned, giving the male, particularly, an imposing appearance, while the female has graceful lines and is a well-balanced bird. One characteristic of this breed is its pea comb. The standard weights of the Light Brahma, in pounds, are: Cock, 12; hen, 9½; cockerel, 10; pullet, 8; and of the Dark and Buff Brahma, cock, 11; hen, 8½; cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

The Light Brahma, in general, is white in plumage color, the hackle feathers are black with a narrow edging of white, the main tail feathers black, and the small tail coverts black with distinct white lacing.

The color pattern is similar to that of the Columbian Plymouth Rock and the Columbian Wyandotte. The feathers on the shanks and the middle and outer toes are white and black, the black feathers on the outer toes being laced with white. The undercolor of all sections is light bluish slate. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The Dark Brahma shows a sexual difference in color pattern, the male being more variegated than the female. The color markings

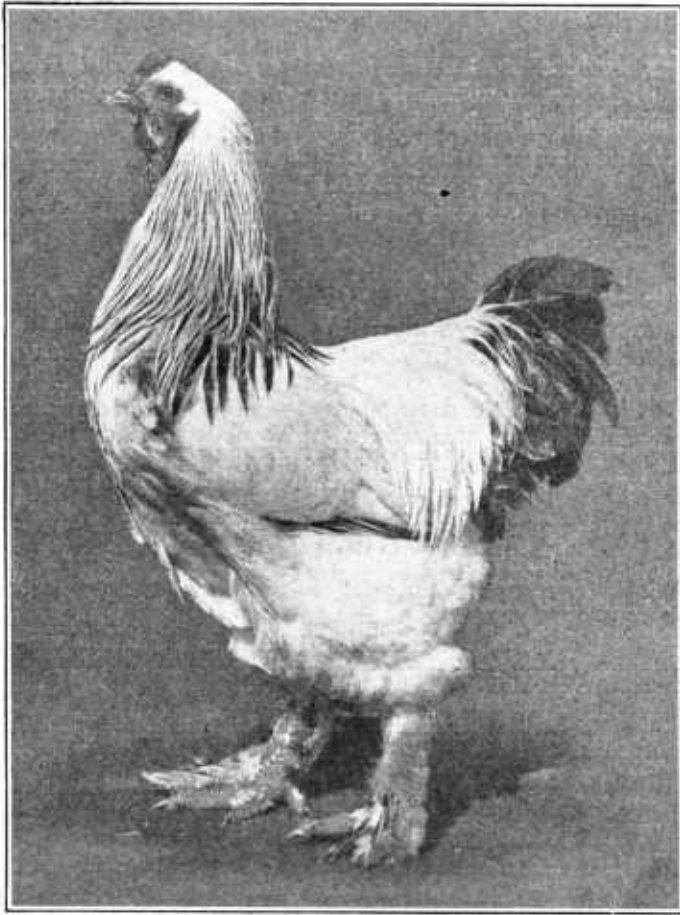


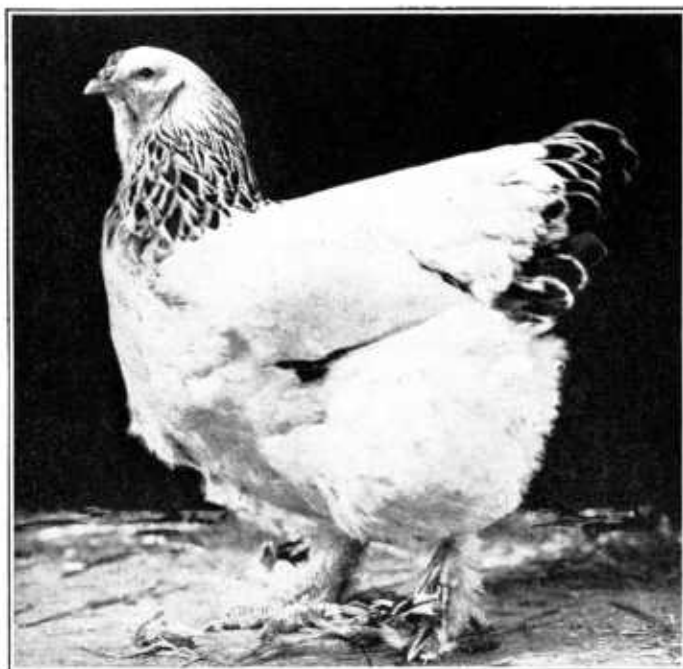
FIGURE 14.—Light Brahma, male.

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are similar to those of the Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock and Wyandotte. In the male the hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of silver white, and the plumage in front of the neck is black. The wing bow is silvery white with greenish-black coverts, the primaries black except for a narrow edging of white on the lower edge of the lower web, and the secondaries black except the lower half of the lower web, which should be white. The neck feathers have black centers with a narrow edging of white, the saddle is silvery white with a

black stripe in each feather. The tail is black, the sickles and coverts are lustrous greenish black, and the smaller coverts greenish black and white.

The color of the female is entirely different. The head and upper part of the neck are silvery gray, the wing bows are steel gray with soft black penciling, the primaries black with a narrow edge of steel-gray penciling on the lower webs, and the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs steel gray with black penciling extending around the outer edge of the feathers. The back is steel gray, with soft black penciling the same as the breast, body, and fluff, and the tail is black except for the two top feathers, which are gray on the upper edge. The undercolor of all sections in both male and female



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FIGURE 15.—Light Brahma, female

should be slate. The beak is dusky yellow and the shanks and toes are yellow.

The Buff Brahma was added to this class in 1929 and is slightly smaller than the Light Brahma. The color of the head, breast, body, fluff, and back of the male is buff; the hackle feathers are black with a narrow edging of golden buff, the wing bows are golden buff; the primaries are black with a buff edge on the lower web. The undercolor is slate or a light shade of buff; the tail is black. The shanks and toes are yellow, with buff and black feathering. The color of the female is similar to that of the male, as in the case of the Light Brahma, while the Dark Brahma male is quite different from the female.

**BRAHMA BANTAM**

There are two varieties of Brahma Bantams, the Dark and the Light. They are the counterpart of the larger varieties. The standard weights, in ounces, are: Cock, 30; hen and cockerel, 26; pullet, 24.



FIGURE 16.—Dark Brahma, male.

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**COCHIN**

The outstanding characteristics of the Cochin are its massive appearance and abundantly feathered shanks. The breast of the Cochin is carried low and, in the female, there is a very prominent development of the cushion at the base of the tail. The feathering is extremely long and profuse so that the Cochin appears much larger than is really the case. All Cochins have single combs. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 11; hen, 8½; cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

The Buff Cochin is an even shade of golden buff on the surface of all sections, and the undercolor is a lighter buff but should also be even in shade. The presence of feathers having a shaft of different color from the rest of the feathers, and the presence of feathers

sprinkled with lighter color are undesirable. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The Partridge Cochin has a color pattern similar to that illustrated and described for the Partridge Plymouth Rock, the color of the male differing materially from that of the female. The undercolor of all sections of both sexes should be slate. The beak is dark horn shading to yellow at the tip, and the shanks and toes are yellow.

The White Cochin is pure white throughout, free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The Black Cochin is black in surface color, with a greenish sheen free from purple, and the undercolor is dull black. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.



FIGURE 17.—Dark Brahma, female.

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### COCHIN BANTAM

There are the same varieties of Cochin Bantams as there are of the larger birds of this breed, and they have the same shape and color. The standard weights, in ounces, are the same as for the Brahma Bantams.

### LANGSHAN

The Langshans differ from the Brahma and Cochin in that the body is shorter but deeper, there is greater length of leg, with moderately feathered shanks; the tail feathers are longer, and the tail is carried

higher. The feathering is tighter than that of the Cochin. The Langshan stands up well and is well proportioned, which makes it a very graceful bird. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 9½; hen, 7½; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6½.

The Black Langshan has a greenish-black surface color and dull black undercolor. The beak is dark horn, the shanks and toes are bluish black, and the bottoms of the feet are pinkish white.

The White Langshan is pure white throughout in plumage color. The beak is light slate blue shading to pinkish white, and the shanks and toes are slaty blue, with pink between the scales.

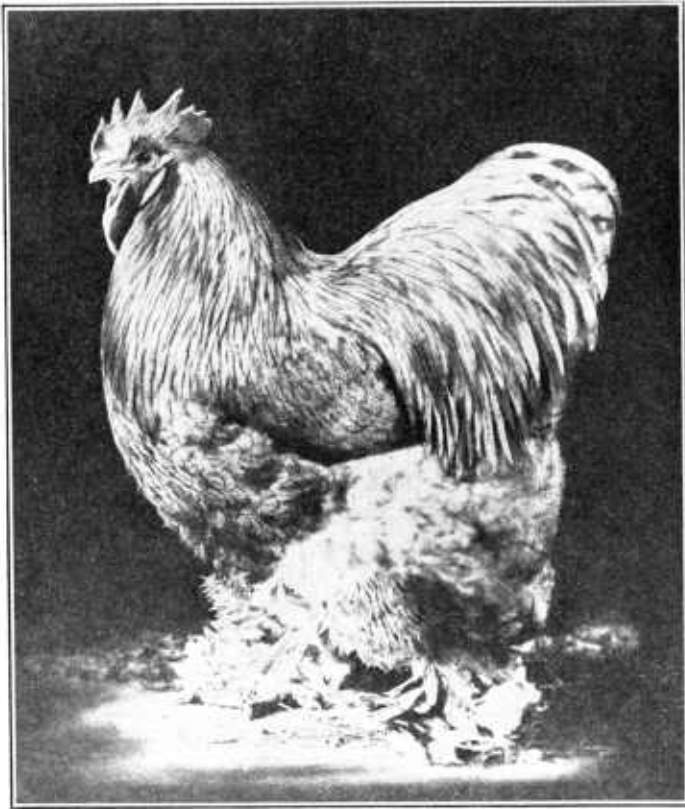


FIGURE 18.—Buff Cochin, male.

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ENGLISH CLASS

The English class includes the following breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETY
Orpington.....	Buff, Black, White, Blue.
Cornish.....	Dark, White, White-Laced Red, Buff.
Cornish Bantam.....	Dark.
Dorking.....	White, Silver-Gray, Colored.
Sussex.....	Speckled, Red, Light.
Red Cap.	
Australorp.	

There is a great diversity among the breeds of chickens of the English class, but they are all of good size and have long been noted for their excellent fleshing properties. With the exception of the Cornish, which has a yellow skin, all these breeds have white skin and red ear lobes and all lay brown-shelled eggs, except the Dorking and Red Cap which lay white eggs.

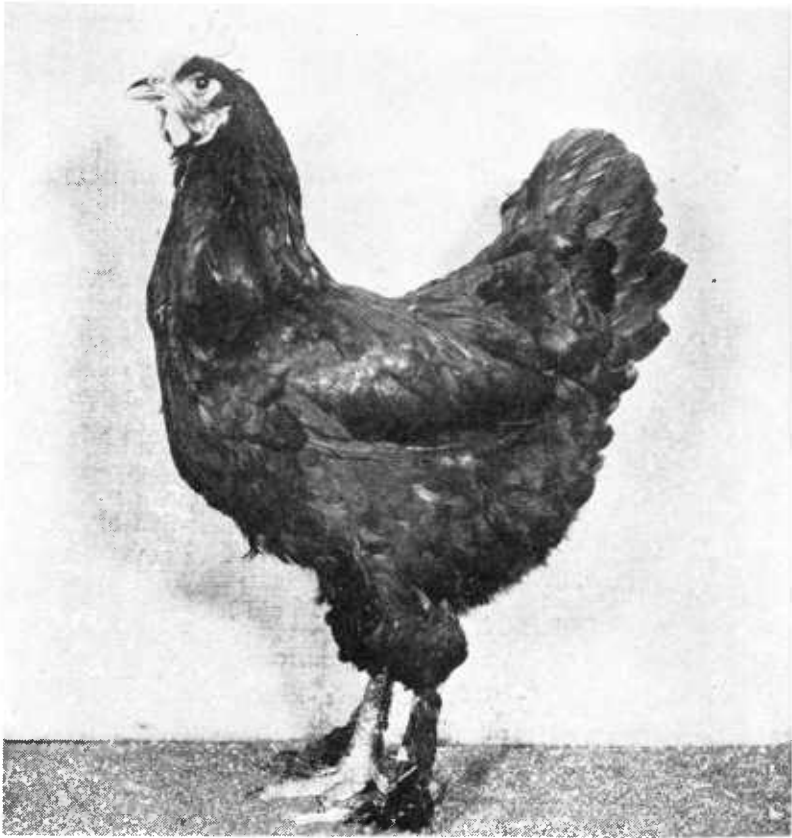


FIGURE 19.—Black Langshan, female.

68216-B

### ORPINGTON

The Orpingtons are characterized by their size and shape of body, which is long, deep, and well rounded, with full breast and broad back. They are rather low-set and heavy in bone. They are a little more loosely feathered than breeds of the American class, such as the Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, and Wyandotte. The Orpingtons make good table birds and good laying strains have been developed when bred with that object in view. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 10; hen, 8; cockerel, 8½; pullet, 7.

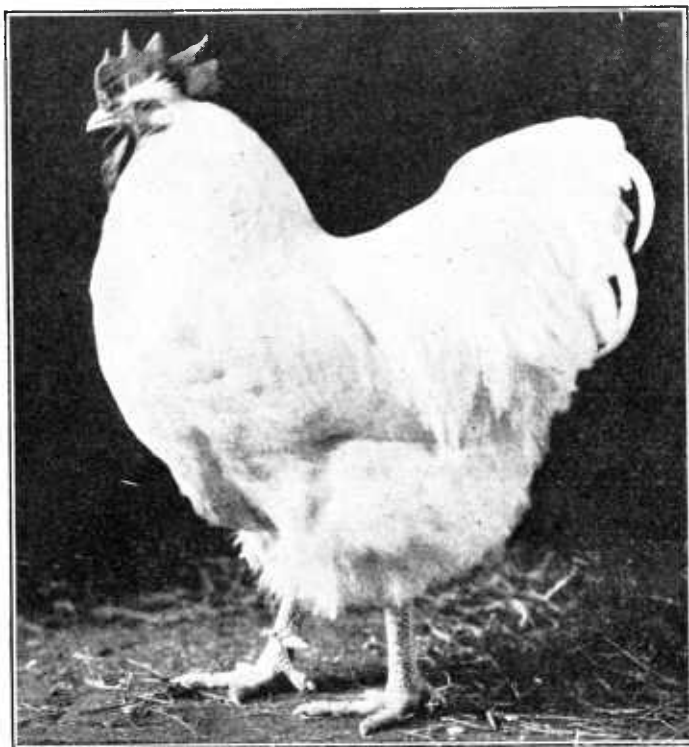
The Buff Orpington is an even shade of rich golden buff throughout the surface, and the undercolor is a lighter but even shade of buff.



The shade of buff should be as even as possible in all sections. The shanks and toes are pinkish white.

The Black Orpington in surface color is black throughout, free from any foreign color, while the undercolor is dull black. The shanks and toes are black, and the bottoms of the feet are pinkish white.

The White Orpington is pure white throughout. There should be no indication of brassiness or creaminess in either the surface or undercolor.



13583-B

FIGURE 20.—White Orpington, male.

The Blue Orpington has practically the same color as the Blue Andalusian. In the male the hackle, back, saddle, sickle feathers, and tail coverts are slaty blue, each feather distinctly laced with very dark, lustrous blue. The rest of the plumage is a slaty blue which shows a well-defined lacing of darker blue. The female has a slaty blue of even shade, each feather having a clear, well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue. The undercolor in both sexes is slaty blue throughout, and the skin is white. The beak is horn, and the shanks and toes are leaden blue.

#### CORNISH

The Cornish is noted for its close feathering and compact, heavily meaty body, which has a distinctive shape. It is exceptionally heavy for its size. The breast of the Cornish is very deep and broad, giving the shoulders great width. All Cornish birds have pea combs. The

standard weights, in pounds, of all varieties are: Cock, 10; hen, 8; cockerel,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Dark Cornish male has greenish-black hackle and wing bows; the primaries are black except for a narrow edging of bay on the outer edge; the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs black and bay; the back of the male should be lustrous greenish black with some dark red intermixed. The tail, lower part of the



FIGURE 21.—Dark Cornish, male.

13581-B

body, and fluff are black, and the breast is greenish black. In the female the neck is a lustrous greenish black, each feather having a bay shaft; the wing bows are bay. The primaries are almost entirely black; the secondaries have the upper webs black; and the lower webs are bay with laced edge and subdivided by black pencilings. The back is bay, approaching mahogany. The main tail feathers are black except the upper two, which are penciled with bay. The lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are bay with the feathers for the most part penciled. The undercolor of both sexes is dark slate. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The White Cornish is pure white in plumage color, and the beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The White-Laced Red Cornish has, in both sexes, bright, rich-red

neck feathers, in the male laced with silvery white and in the female with white. In both sexes the back, lower part of body, fluff, and breast are rich red in appearance, each feather regularly laced with a narrow lacing of white. In the male the feathers in the tail are white with red shafts and centers; in the female the tail is red, with each feather laced with white. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is white.

The Buff Cornish is an even shade of golden buff throughout the surface with the neck, back, and wing of the male a rich lustrous buff.



FIGURE 22.—White-Laced Red Cornish, female.

4953-C

The undercolor is lighter but should be as near as possible like the surface color. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

#### CORNISH BANTAM

The Dark Cornish Bantam, which is the only bantam variety of Cornish, has the same shape and color as the larger variety. Standard weights, in ounces, are: Cock, 36; hen and cockerel, 30; pullet, 24.

#### DORKING

The Dorkings are one of the oldest domesticated breeds of poultry. They are characterized by long, broad, deep, and low-set bodies. The White Dorking has a rose comb, whereas the other two varieties,

Silver-Gray and Colored, have single combs. The Dorkings differ from most other general-purpose breeds in that they have five toes and lay white-shelled eggs. The standard weights, in pounds, of the White Dorking are: Cock,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen, 6; cockerel,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet, 5; of the Silver-Gray and Colored Dorkings, they are : Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

The White Dorking is white throughout and should be free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

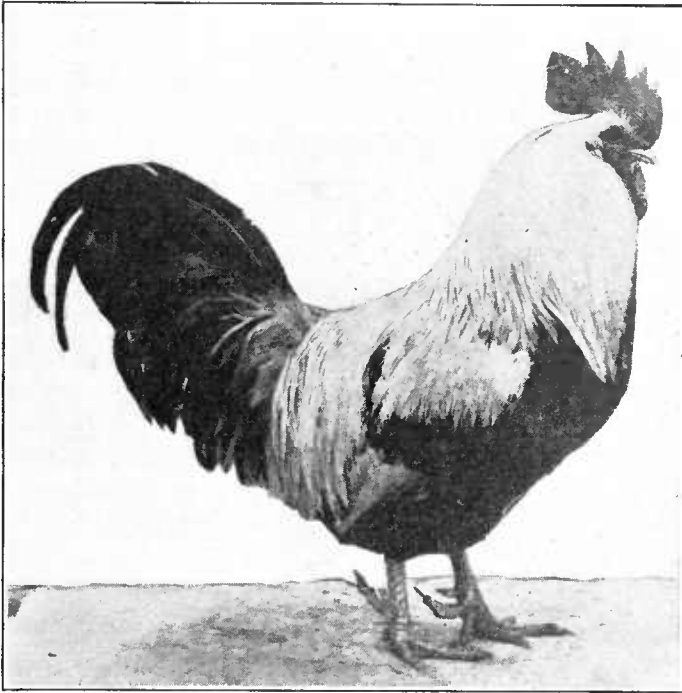
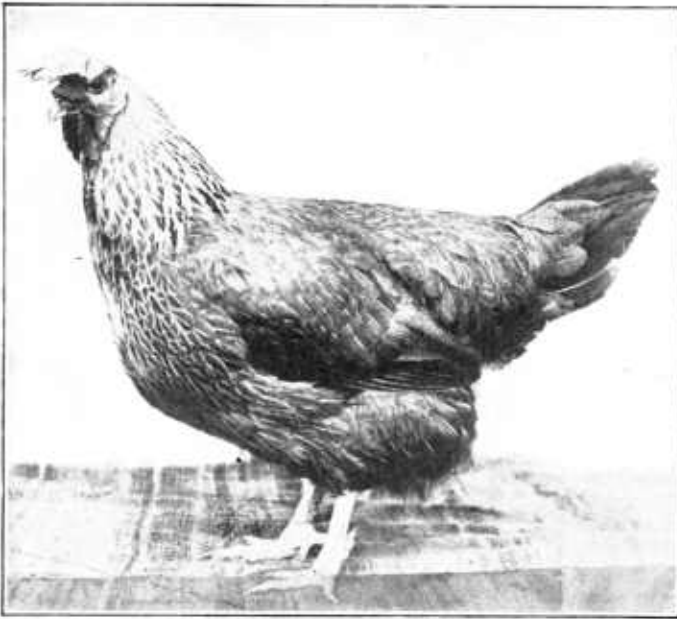


FIGURE 23.—Silver-Gray Dorking, male.

2442-C

The Silver-Gray Dorking male has a silvery-white hackle, and the plumage on the front of the neck and breast is black. The wing bows are silvery white; the primaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs white; the secondaries are the same as the primaries, except that in the secondaries there is a black spot at the end of each feather. The back and saddle are silvery white, the tail is black, and the sickles and coverts are greenish black; the lower part of the body and the fluff are also black. In the female the neck is silvery gray, each feather having a black stripe extending down its center. The breast is a reddish salmon shading to gray at sides. The wing bows are gray stippled with silvery white; the upper webs of the primaries are dark slate and the lower webs gray; the secondaries are the same as the primaries. The back is ashy gray, and the tail is black stippled with gray. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is slate. The beak is white streaked with horn, and the shanks and toes are pinkish white.

The Colored Dorking male has a light-straw-colored neck and hackle; the wing bows are light-straw color; the primaries are dark slate; the secondaries have the upper webs black, and the lower webs white. The saddle feathers are also light-straw color, with a black stripe down the middle of each feather. The breast, lower part of



2441-C

FIGURE 24.—Silver-Gray Dorking, female.

body, fluff, and tail are black. The undercolor is slate. In the female the neck is black, with straw-colored edging on the front of each feather; the wing bows are black; the primaries are slaty brown; the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs black, with a mixture of dark gray. The back of the female is lustrous black; the tail is dark brown; the lower part of the body is black, slightly mixed with gray, and the fluff is dull black, edged with gray. The breast is a dark salmon. The undercolor of the female is dark slate. The beak is dark horn, and the shanks and toes are white.

### SUSSEX

The Sussex is primarily a table fowl and has a long body, broad at the shoulders and with good depth from front to rear. The breast is well developed, and the bird has excellent fleshing qualities. Fowls of this breed have single combs and pinkish-white shanks and toes. The beak is horn colored in the Speckled and Red varieties, but almost white in the Light Sussex. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet, 6.

The Speckled Sussex is mahogany bay in color, each feather tipped with white. In the male the neck is a lustrous mahogany bay, each feather having a black stripe and a white tip. The wing bows also are mahogany bay; the primaries are black and white; the secondaries

have the outer webs bay edged with white, and the inner webs are black edged with white, each feather ending with a white spangle. The back and saddle are mahogany bay; the main tail feathers are black and white; the lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are all mahogany bay in color, each feather tipped with white. The female is for the most part mahogany bay throughout, except that the

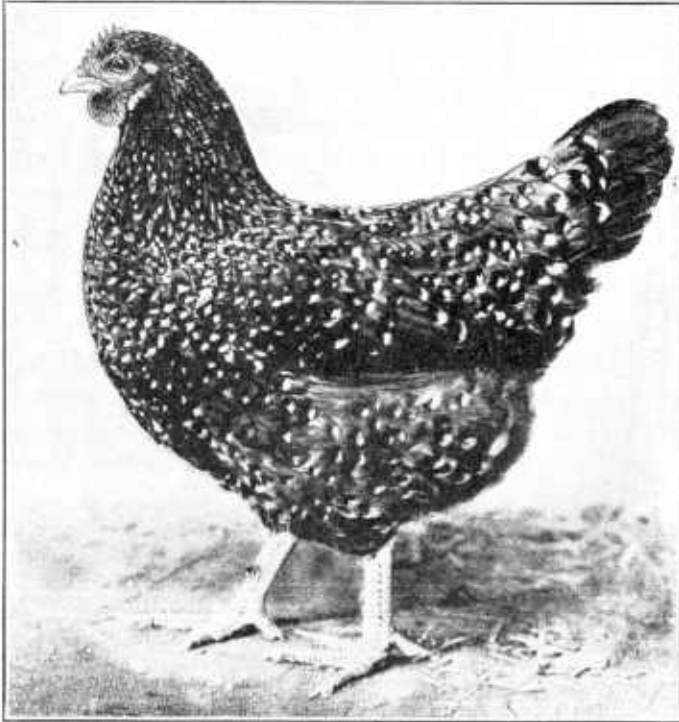


FIGURE 25.—Speckled Sussex, female.

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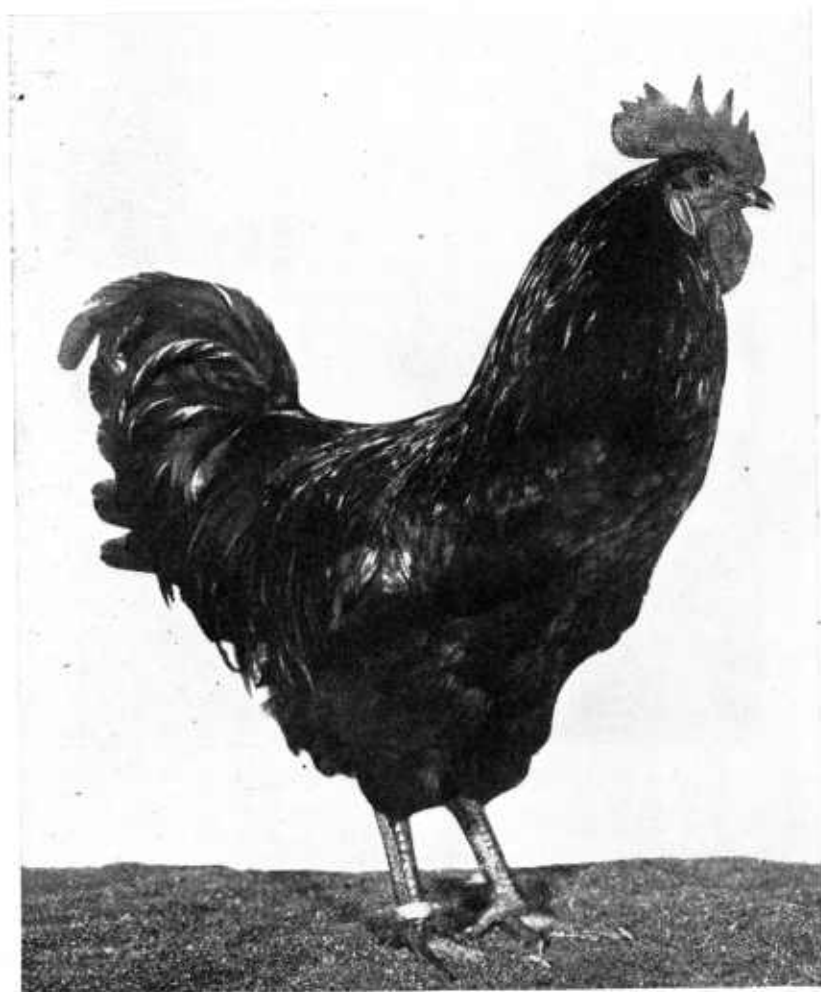
primaries and secondaries are the same as in the male. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is slate, shading to salmon.

The Red Sussex is a rich mahogany in both sexes. The only exceptions to the red color are found principally in the primaries, where the lower webs are black with a narrow edging of red, in the secondaries where the upper webs are black, and the tail, which is black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is red with a slight bar of slate.

The Light Sussex is largely white in color, the head, back, breast, front of neck, body, and fluff, wing bows, and undercolor being white in both sexes. The color markings of this breed are quite similar to those of the Columbian Plymouth Rock. The hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of white; the front of the neck is white; the primaries are black with a white edging on the lower part of the feather; the main tail feathers are black; the small coverts greenish black edged with white.

## RED CAP

The Red Cap is bred to only a slight extent in North America. It is a bird of medium size with a fairly long body and a rather prominent breast. A large rose comb is characteristic of the breed. The standard weights in pounds, are: Cock,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen, 6; cockerel, 6; pullet, 5.



68071-B

FIGURE 26.—Australorp, male.

The hackle of the male is blue black, each feather being edged with red; the wing bows are mahogany red; the primaries dull black; the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs black with a broad edging of brown, each feather ending with a black spangle. The back is red and black; the tail, lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are black. In the female the neck is black, each feather laced with golden bay; the wing bows are rich brown in color; the primaries dull black; the secondaries black, the lower webs having a broad edging of brown. The back, lower part of body, fluff, and breast are

rich brown, with a black spangle at the end of each feather. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is bluish slate. The beak is horn colored and the shanks and toes are dark leaden blue.

### AUSTRALORP

The Australorp was developed from the Black Orpington and has the lustrous black plumage color of that breed. It is much smaller and more tightly feathered than the Orpington and has been developed as an egg producer. In shape it is less massive than the Orpington, but has a rather long back and good body depth. This breed has a white skin, produces brown-shelled eggs, and has dark slate shanks and toes. The comb is single, the beak is black, and the ear lobes are red. The black is the only variety of this breed. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

### MEDITERRANEAN CLASS

The Mediterranean class includes the following standard breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETIES
Leghorn-----	{ Single-Comb White. Rose-Comb White. Single-Comb Light Brown. Single-Comb Dark Brown. Rose-Comb Light Brown. Rose-Comb Dark Brown. Single-Comb Buff. Single-Comb Black. Silver. Red. Black-Tailed Red. Columbian.
Minorca-----	{ Single-Comb Black. Rose-Comb Black. Single-Comb White. Rose-Comb White. Single-Comb Buff.
Ancona-----	{ Single-Comb. Rose-Comb.
Spanish-----	White-Faced Black.
Blue Andalusian.	
Buttercup.	

These breeds are smaller than the breeds belonging to the American, Asiatic, and English classes and are kept primarily for egg-producing purposes. All the Mediterranean breeds are classed as nonbroody and all are clean-legged, have white or creamy-white ear lobes, and lay white-shelled eggs. The White Leghorn is the breed very generally kept for commercial egg production in the United States.

### LEGHORN

The Leghorn has been described as a bird of curves, since in outline it has a sweeping curve of neck, back, and tail which is "well furnished" and well spread. The breed is noted for the graceful blending of its different sections and its stylish carriage. All the Leghorns have yellow or horn beaks, and yellow skin, shanks, and toes. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 6; hen, 4½; cockerel, 5; pullet, 4. There are single-comb and rose-comb varieties,



and the shape of the comb is of considerable importance. The single comb in the male should be of medium size and should stand erect, with five regular, deeply serrated points. In the female the front of the first point should stand erect, but the remainder of the comb should droop to one side. The tail should be carried at an angle of  $40^{\circ}$  above horizontal. In the rose-comb varieties the comb of the male should be of medium size and square in front, well filled and free from hollows, the spike well developed and extending straight back from the head. The rose comb of the female is small and neat and in shape is like that of the male.

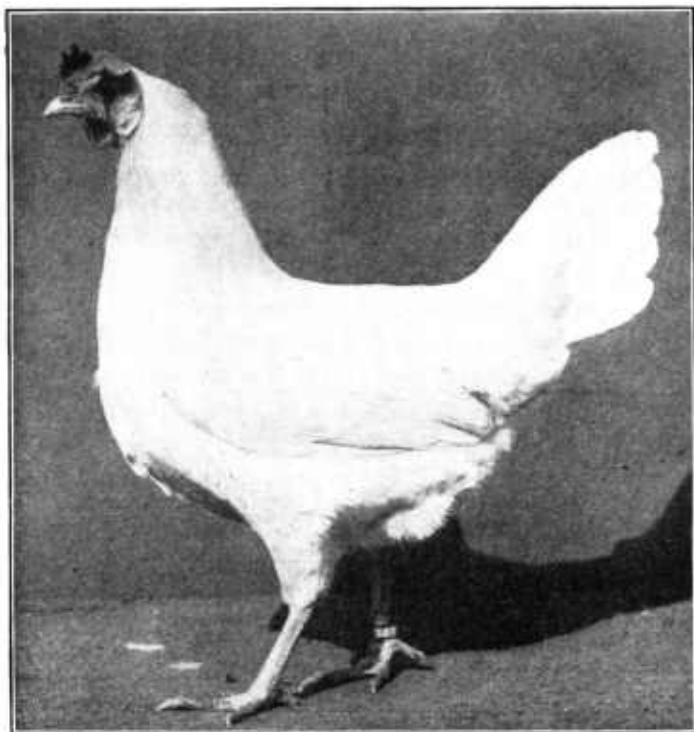


FIGURE 27.—Single-Comb White Leghorn, female.

5300-C

The Single-Comb White Leghorn is white throughout and should be free from any brassiness or creaminess.

The Rose-Comb White Leghorn is identical with the Single-Comb White Leghorn, except for the rose comb.

The Single-Comb Light Brown Leghorn male has a hackle of orange color, the lower feathers of which are striped down the middle with black. The breast is black, the wing bows are orange red, the back and saddle are deep orange red, the lower saddle feathers being light orange. The feathers of the back and saddle should be free from shafting. The dull-black primaries and secondaries have the lower webs edged with brown. The feathers over the lower part of the body are slate tinged with brown. The tail is black. The undercolor is light slate. In the female the neck feathers are light orange with a black stripe extending down the center of each feather. The breast

is a rich, salmon color, and should be free from shafting. The sides of the breast shade gradually to the color of the wings. The primaries are a slaty brown with the outer webs showing a narrow edging of brown. The secondaries are brown, with the outer webs finely stippled with lighter brown. The back, body, coverts, wing bows, and coverts in surface color are dark brown finely stippled with lighter brown. The main tail feathers are black. The shade of color over

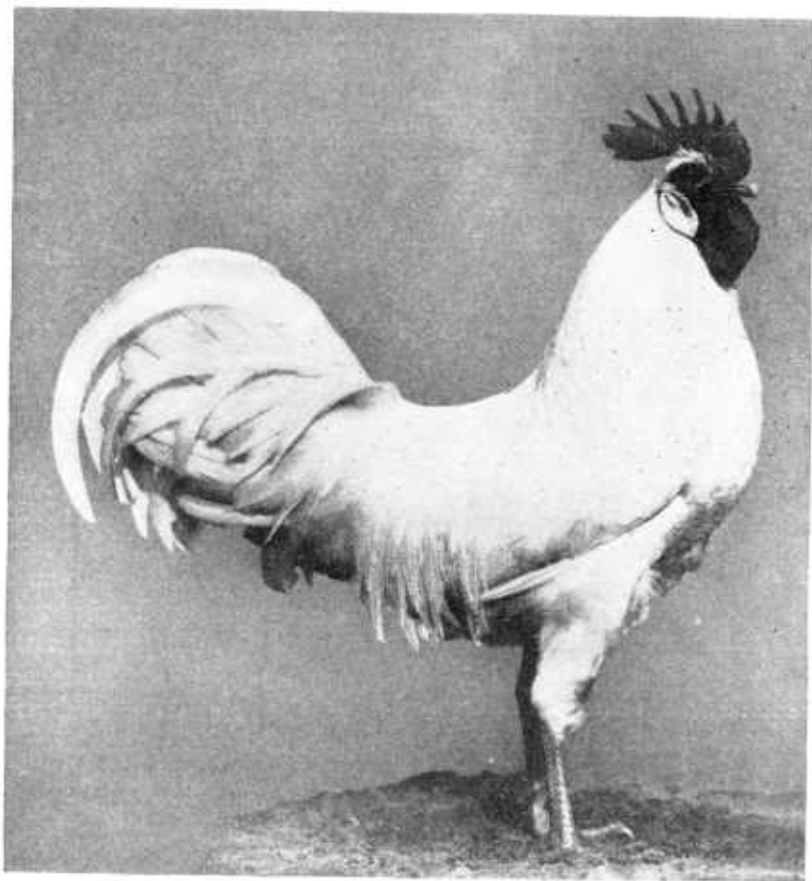


FIGURE 28.—Single-Comb White Leghorn, male.

5110-C

the back, wing bows, and coverts should be even and the feathers free from shafting. The fluff and thighs are slate tinged with brown. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The Rose-Comb Light Brown Leghorn is identical with the Single-Comb variety except in kind of comb.

The Single-Comb Dark Brown Leghorn male has a dark-red head, a rich-red hackle and saddle, and the feathers are striped with a greenish-black stripe extending through the middle of each feather. The back is of the same shade as the hackle. The wing bows are rich red, the fronts and coverts greenish black, which show as a distinct wing bar when the wing is folded. The primaries are black, the

lower webs edged with brown. The secondaries are black, the lower webs showing edges of brown. The tail, body, breast, fluff, and thighs are black. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The female is of a darker shade than the female of the light brown variety. The neck should be well striped with black. The back, wing coverts, and breast should be black, stippled with a reddish brown. The primaries and secondaries are slaty black, the outer web edged with brown. There should be no shafting, but the plumage



5363-B

FIGURE 29.—Single-Comb Light Brown Leghorn, female.

should show a greenish sheen free from purple. The stippling is much coarser than in the light brown female. The undercolor should be slate black, running quite dark down to the skin.

The Rose-Comb Dark Brown Leghorn is identical with the Single-Comb variety except in shape of comb.

The Single-Comb Buff Leghorn is of the same golden-buff color as found in the Buff Plymouth Rock and other buff varieties.

The Single-Comb Black Leghorn should be black in all sections, showing a lustrous sheen free from purple barring. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The Silver Leghorn male has a silvery white surface color; the head is silvery white, and the hackle is white, each feather having a median stripe of black. The wing fronts and shoulders are black, the bows are silvery white, the coverts black, forming a distinct bar across the wing. The primaries are black, except for the silvery white outer

edges of the lower feathers. The secondaries are black and white; the back, saddle, and lower tail coverts are silvery white. The main tail feathers, sickles, upper tail coverts, breast, body, thighs, and fluff are black. In the female the head and neck are silvery gray, each feather of the latter showing a narrow black stripe. The wing bows and coverts are silvery white, finely stippled with ashy gray, giving

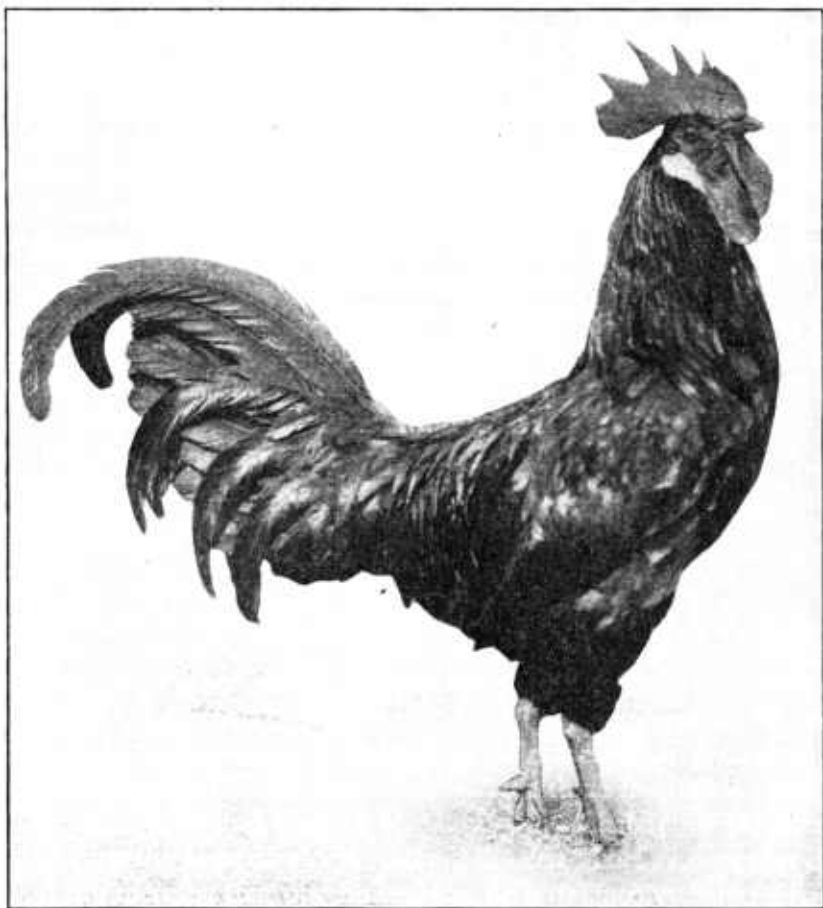


FIGURE 30.—Single-Comb Dark Brown Leghorn, male.

5364-B

these sections a general gray cast. In the primary and secondary feathers the upper webs are dark slate and the lower webs slaty gray. The front of the neck is a light salmon, and the breast is salmon, fading gradually to the color of the wings at the side. The back, body, and thighs are the same color as the wing bows and coverts. The tail is black, except that the upper two feathers are light gray and the tail coverts are gray. The fluff is a light, ashy gray. The undercolor of the female is slate and that of the male light slate. This variety has a single comb.

The Red Leghorn is a rich brilliant red in all sections, both in the male and in the female, and has a red undercolor. There is a slight

reddish horn tint on the beak, but the legs are yellow. This variety has a single comb.

The Black-Tailed Red Leghorn male has the reddish surface plumage of the Red Leghorn but the lower webs of the primaries and the primary coverts are black with a narrow edging of red. The secondaries are black except the lower webs and the end of the feathers, giving a red surface color to the wing when it is folded against the body. The main tail and sickle feathers are black; the coverts are greenish black except as they approach the saddle, where they are red. The legs are yellow, tinged with reddish horn. The color of the female is similar to that of the male except that a slight black ticking is allowed on the back of the neck, while the main tail feathers are black with the two top feathers edged with red. All birds of this variety are single comb.

The Columbian Leghorn has the same color pattern as the Columbian Plymouth Rock and the Light Brahma; the shanks, toes, and beak are yellow. This variety has a single comb.

### MINORCA

The Minorca is noted for its length of body, large comb, and long wattles, and is the largest of the Mediterranean breeds. The long back slopes slightly downward from the shoulders to the base of the tail. The tail is carried rather low and is well spread. The breast is prominent and well rounded. The skin of all varieties of the Minorcas is white.

In the single-comb varieties the comb is unusually large. In the male it is erect and has six evenly and deeply serrated points. In the female also the comb is large, six-pointed, and the front of the comb folds to one side and the remainder droops to the other side of the head. In the rose-comb varieties the comb of the male is fairly large, square in front, and terminates in a well-defined spike. The rose comb of the female is practically the same in shape as that of the male but is smaller. The standard weights, in pounds, of the Single-Comb Black Minorca are: Cock, 9; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ . Of the other varieties of Minorcas the weights are: Cock, 8; hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Single-Comb Black Minorca is black with lustrous, greenish sheen over the surface, which should be free from purple barring. The undercolor is dull black. The beak is black, and the shanks and toes are dark slate.

The Rose-Comb Black Minorca is identical with the Single-Comb Black Minorca in color, but is 1 pound lighter in standard weight.

The Single-Comb White Minorca should be white throughout, free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

The Rose-Comb White Minorca is the counterpart of the Single-Comb White Minorca, except for the comb.

The Single-Comb Buff Minorca should be an even, rich, golden buff throughout, as in the case of all buff birds. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

### ANCONA

The Ancona is similar to the Leghorn in type but is not produced so extensively. The standard weights, in pounds are: Cock, 6; hen,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 5; pullet, 4.

The Single-Comb Ancona and the Rose-Comb Ancona are the two varieties of this breed, and they are identical in every respect except in the shape of the comb.

The single comb is identical in shape with the Leghorn single comb of each sex, and the rose comb in the Ancona female is identical in shape with the Leghorn female rose comb; but in the Ancona male it is slightly smaller than in the Leghorn male.



FIGURE 31.—Single-Comb Black Minorca, female.

2518-C

The Ancona has a plumage color of lustrous greenish black with certain of the feathers tipped with a V-shaped white tip. The proportion of feathers carrying such a white tip varies from one in two to one in five in different sections. The main tail feathers and sickles of the male and the main tail feathers of the female are each tipped with white. The primary and secondary wing feathers also carry white tips. The undercolor is dark slate throughout. The beak is yellow with the upper mandible shaded with black and the shanks and toes are yellow.

**WHITE-FACED BLACK SPANISH**

The White-Faced Black Spanish has a very large, pendulous, white face which should be smooth and free from wrinkles. In type the Spanish is very much the same as the Minorca, although it has not quite so long a body and has a somewhat higher carriage of tail. The skin is white. The comb is single and rather large, although not so large as in the Single-Comb Minorca. It has five regular, deeply serrated points, and the blade extends nearly straight back from the



68160 B

FIGURE 32.—Single-Comb Ancona, female.

head, having little, if any, tendency to follow the neck. The comb of the female is erect in front and droops to one side. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8; hen, 6½; cockerel, 6½; pullet, 5½. The plumage color should be black throughout with a lustrous, greenish sheen. The undercolor is dull black throughout. The beak is black and the shanks and toes are dark slate.

**BLUE ANDALUSIAN**

The Blue Andalusian is similar to the Leghorn in type, but is slightly larger. The comb is single, that of the male somewhat larger than the comb of the Leghorn, and the blade has a slight tendency to follow the neck. The comb of the female is practically identical with that of the Leghorn female. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 7; hen, 5½; cockerel, 6; pullet, 4½. In the

male the hackle, back, saddle, shoulders, sickle feathers, and tail coverts are a medium shade of slaty blue, each feather laced with dark lustrous blue. The rest of the plumage is also an even shade of slaty blue, each feather laced with darker blue, but the lacing in these sections is not so dark in shade as in the other sections named above. The upper portions of the male, therefore, appear much darker in



FIGURE 33.—White-Faced Black Spanish, male.

7779-C

shade of blue than the lower portions. The plumage color of the female is a slaty blue of even shade, each feather, except the primaries, having a clear, well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue. The blue color is the same as that of the Blue Plymouth Rock. The undercolor of both sexes is a slaty blue. The skin is white; the beak is horn, and the shanks and toes are dark slaty blue.

#### BUTTERCUP

The characteristic feature of the Buttercup breed is the cup-shaped comb. In type and size Buttercups somewhat resemble Leghorns. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen, 5; cockerel,



5½; and pullet, 4. The ear lobe is white. The male and female differ in respect to plumage color. The head of the male is brilliant orange red, and the head of the female is of golden buff. In the male the neck, back, and saddle are rich reddish orange. The breast is reddish bay; the main tail feathers are black; the sickles greenish black.

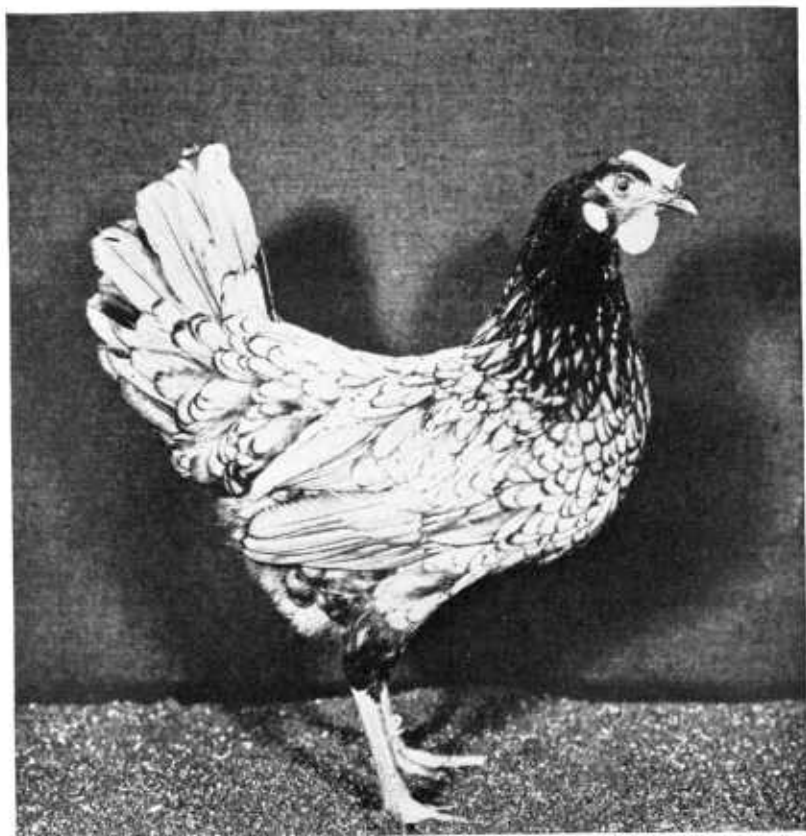


FIGURE 34.—Blue Andalusian, female.

68218-B

In the male, the cape feathers at the base of the hackle are dark buff with distinct black spangles. The primaries are black with the lower webs edged with bay; the secondaries have outer webs of bay with black markings; the inner webs are black, with bay markings; the body is light bay; and the fluff is rich bay. In the female the general color is golden buff; on the feathers of the wing, back, and body, and on the lower part of the breast there are parallel rows of elongated black spangles, each spangle extending slightly diagonally across the web. The fluff is buff. The under color in both sexes is slaty blue becoming light-grayish buff at the base of the feathers. The beak is light horn, and the shanks and toes are willow green in both sexes.

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